ENHANCEMENT OF TECHNICAL BUILDING AND ATC TOWER AT BENGALURU AIRPORT

7.   SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government has implemented GAGAN across the country, and if so, the details, including its operational coverage and benefits
(b) whether Government proposes to enhance or improve technical building and ATC tower at Bengaluru airport, and if so, the specifics of the project, including estimated cost, timeline, and progress made so far
(c) if not, the reasons for not undertaking such an initiative and
(d) whether the Digi Yatra scheme is being implemented at Bengaluru airport, and if so, the details, including passenger adoption, technology deployed, and future expansion plans?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

 (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): GAGAN, received certification from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in 2013 and 2015 for Required Navigation Performance (RNP-0.1) and Approach with Vertical Guidance (APV-1) operations respectively. GAGAN Signal-in-Space (SIS) is available 24/7 and capable of providing navigation services to suitably equipped Aircrafts since May 2015. Currently, 22 GAGAN-based Localiser Performance with Vertical Guidance (LPV) procedures for 14 Airports have been published.

GAGAN offers numerous advantages to the aviation sector by supporting all flight phases, including Oceanic, Approach, Terminal, and Surface operations. It facilitates the design of direct routes, helping reduce fuel consumption, flight time, and operational costs. Furthermore, GAGAN can act as a backup to conventional navigation aids at busy Airports and be used standalone where conventional navigation aids are not feasible due to terrain/technical/economic constraints.

(b) & (c): Upgradation/Modernisation of Airports including Air Navigation Services (ANS) infrastructure is a continuous process and is undertaken by AAI and other Airport Developers from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand / willingness of airlines to operate to/from such Airports.

(d): Bengaluru International Airport Limited (BIAL) introduced the Digi Yatra on December 1, 2022, to provide a seamless and hassle-free experience for the passengers at Airports. Digi Yatra is based on biometric-based travel using Facial Recognition Technology. Since its launch, more than one crore passengers have availed the facility of Digi Yatra at Bangalore airport.

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